

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 212

Expressing the sense of the Congress relating to the European Union's ban of United States beef and the World Trade Organization's ruling concerning that ban.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 1998

Mr. CHRISTENSEN submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress relating to the European Union's ban of United States beef and the World Trade Organization's ruling concerning that ban.

Whereas the European Union has banned imports of United States beef treated with hormones since 1989;

Whereas 9 out of 10 United States cattle are treated with growth promoting hormones;

Whereas growth promoting hormones have been deemed safe by all countries that have reviewed the use of such hormones, including reviews by European Union scientists in two separate studies;

Whereas since the implementation of the European Union ban, United States beef producers have lost hundreds of millions of dollars in exports;

Whereas the United States beef industry loses approximately \$250,000,000 in annual sales due to the ban;

Whereas the United States beef industry, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the United States Trade Representative have invested substantial resources to comply with strict dispute settlement procedures of the World Trade Organization;

Whereas the dispute settlement panel and the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization have ruled that the European Union's ban of United States beef is not based on sound science or supported by a risk assessment and is therefore in violation of the World Trade Organization's Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures; and

Whereas noncompliance by the European Union regarding the ban on United States beef threatens the integrity of both the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and the World Trade Organization as a dispute settlement body: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3 (1) the United States expects the European
4 Union to immediately and completely comply with
5 the World Trade Organization's ruling and grant
6 United States beef producers access to the European
7 market; and

8 (2) the United States Trade Representative
9 should take immediate action to open European
10 markets to United States beef producers in the event

- 1 the European Union fails to comply with the World
- 2 Trade Organization's ruling.

